



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 30 August 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
30 AUGUST 1967

1. North Vietnam

Hanoi has finally seen fit to announce Stokely Carmichael's visit. A broadcast yesterday said Carmichael had come to North Vietnam at the invitation of the Vietnam Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee. The broadcast left the impression Carmichael had just arrived. Actually, we believe he has been there for a week. Carmichael was quoted as expressing "warm militant solidarity" with the Vietnamese.

2. South Vietnam

The Provisional Assembly has rejected a government proposal to keep the polls open for an extra two hours on election day. The Military Directorate had asked for the extra time to assure maximum voter participation. On 3 September voting hours will be from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

3. Congo

Mobutu is back-peddling on his stand that only a Congolese military victory over the mercenaries can erase the stain of dishonor. The General, who vacillates a good deal in time of crisis, apparently has remembered that his army is an improbable instrument for victory and would be more likely to take to the bush than to take Bukavu.

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Mobutu is now saying that he would negotiate with the mercenaries if Schramme alone would "disappear."

4. Communist China

Peking is taking further steps to curb the spread of violence, including the deployment of troops into at least one problem area.

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This directive may backfire and cause still more violence. Local authorities, which have sometimes deliberately misinterpreted such orders in recent months, may use it to justify disarming Maoists and supplying their own supporters with weapons.

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although the directive has been widely publicized in Canton, killing and fighting continue.

5. Egypt

Last Friday night Nasir broke up a coup attempt: he simply invited the organizer, former chief of the armed forces Abdul Hakim Amir, to dinner and arrested him in the presence of the other guests. Some 150 of Amir's high-ranking collaborators have since been picked up.

Nasir may now feel temporarily secure. The arrest of Amir, long a favorite of the army, may in time have serious repercussions. At the moment, however, the army appears too demoralized and leaderless to take up the gauntlet.

6. Aden

The South Arabian Army, to which the British had hoped to turn over power and then leave, has declined the offer. London seems, however, to be going ahead with plans to get out, apparently hoping that the conflicting groups will themselves somehow come to an arrangement.

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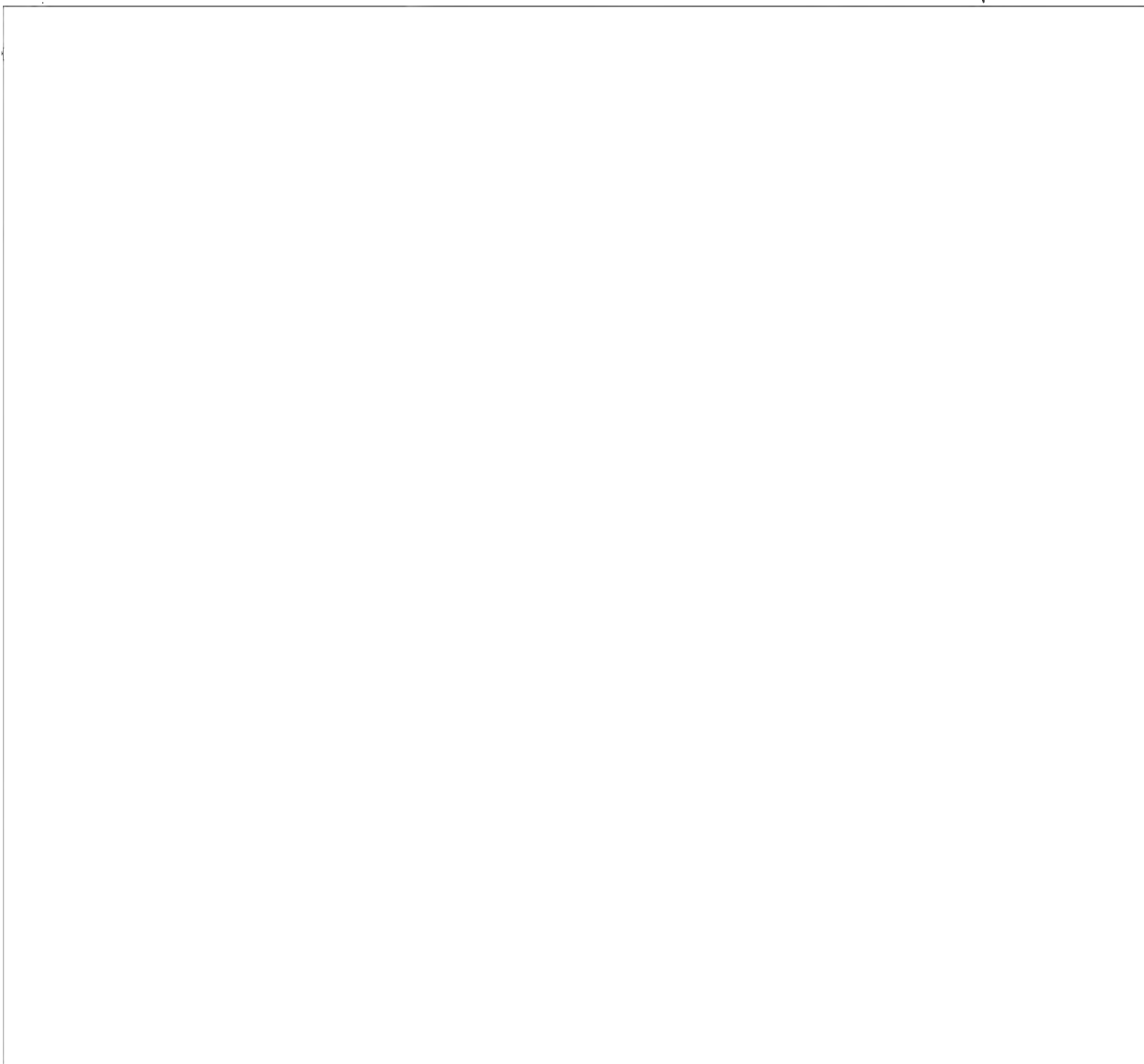
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